Setting up of National Law University

871. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are proposing to establish a National Law University to ensure proper training to law students;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this Ministry has obtained the approval of the Cabinet;

(d) whether this Ministry is going to bring a legislation before Parliament in the current sessions; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) A proposal to establish a National Law University in National Capital Region (NCR) with its three National centers in the Northern, Western and Eastern regions of the country on the pattern of the National Law School at Bangalore, with an enabling provision to create more such Centres, is under consideration of the Government;

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) It will take some more time to take a final decision.

Trade-Related Competition Bill, 2000

872. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised the Trade-Related Competition Bill, 2000 to replace the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed Bill and by when it is likely to be presented in Parliament;

(c) whether it is a fact that the proposed Bill has diluted the provisions relating to restrictive trade practices as provided in the MRTP Act of 1969; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have finalised the Competition Bill, 2001.

(b) The Government intendes to introduce the Competition Bill, 2001 during the Monsoon Session, 2001. The proposed Bill provides for repeal of MRTP Act, 1969. The salient features of the proposed Competition Bill are as under:—

The Bill mainly covers the following aspects:

(i) Prohibition of anti-competitive agreements;
(ii) Prohibition of abuse of dominance;
(iii) Regulation of Combinations (acquisitions, mergers and amalgamations of certain size);
(iv) Establishment of Competition Commission of India (CCI);
(v) Functions and powers of CCI.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, in view of the policy shift from curbing monoplies to promoting competition, there is a need to repeal the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969. Hence, the proposed Competition Law to be brought in, aims at doing away with the rigidly structured MRTP Act. The Competition Law proposed is flexible and behaviour-oriented.

Processing of voters identity cards

873. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether voters identity cards are being continuously processed in all the States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, why in Delhi Zone-wise cards are not being prepared and issued to quicken the matter; and

(c) the target set to cover the whole of India with photo identity cards to all adults early?